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THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, N. Y.
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

BUREAU OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



Sweeping and Dusting

IN SWEEPING a room raise as little dust as possible, because dust, when breathed in, irritates the nose and throat and often sets up catarrh. Some of the dust breathed reaches the lungs, making portions of them black and hard and useless.

If the dust breathed contains the germs of consumption—tubercle bacilli—which come from consumptives spitting on the floors, the risk is run of getting consumption. If consumptives use proper spit cups and are careful when coughing or sneezing to hold a handkerchief over the nose and mouth so as not to scatter spittle about in the air, the risk to others of getting the disease by living in the same rooms with the consumptives is inconsiderable.

To prevent making a great dust in sweeping bare floors, use moist sawdust. When the room is carpeted, moisten a newspaper, tear it into small scraps and scatter these over the carpet.

In sweeping, brush these scraps of paper along with the broom and they will catch most of the dust and hold it fast, just as the sawdust does on the bare floors. Do not have either the paper or the sawdust dripping wet, only moist.

In dusting a room, do not use a feather duster, because this does not remove the dust from the room, but only brushes it into the air.

Use soft, dry cloths to dust with and shake them frequently out of the window; or use slightly moistened cloths and rinse them out in water when finished. In this way the dust can be gotten out of the room.

In rooms which have bare floors, in houses, stores, shops, school-rooms, etc., all dust can be easily removed after it has settled, by passing over the floor a mop which has been wrung out so as to be only moist, not dripping wet.

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Health Officer.



